formation; and children on vegetarian diet have growth patterns comparable to those on non-vegetarian diet. These recommendations are of general nature and the organisers of the conference intend to disseminate them widely.

National Policy on Medical Education

233. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government for having a national policy on Medical education; and

(b) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHASHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The process of formulating a national policy on the subject of medical education has been initiated and it will be Government's endeavour to complete the exercise as early as possible.

Budget allocations for Health and Family Welfare Services

234. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what were the percentage of Central and State Budget allocations for Health and Family Welfare services during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether the percentage budget allocations for health and Family Welfare service in India has been the lowest or one of the lowest even amongst the developing countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka; and

(c) how far this factor is considered responsible for continuing high rate of growth of population?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARAN AND): (a) The percentage of Central State Budget allocations for Health and Family Welfare Services are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

	1991-92			1992-93		
	Centre	States & UTs	Total	Centre	States & UTs.	Total
1. Health Programmes	301.90	883.60	1185.50	447.00 (RE)	1005.31	1452.31
	(0.70%)	(3.0%)	(1.65%)	(0.92%)	(3.01%)	(1.80%)
2. Family Welfare Programmes	749.00	—	749.00	1041.00 (RE)	—	1041.00
	(1.74%)		(1.04%)	(2.15%)		(1.29%)
Total Health & F.W.	1050.90	883.60	1934.50	1400.00 (RE)	1005.31	2493.31
	(2.44%)	(3.0%)	(2.68%)	(3.07%)	(3.01%)	(3.09%)
3. Overall Plan	42953.75	29348.00	72316.75	48407.08	32364.88	88077.96

(b) According to the Human Development Report 1992, the Public Expenditure on Health as a percentage of the GNP is as follows for the following countries:—

India	0.9
Srilanka	1.7
Nepal	0.8
Pakistan	0.2
Bangladesh	0.6